

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JANKA BEHARY DAS) : We shall now take up the clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause \.—Short title and commencement.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : Sir, I move :

1. "That at page 1, line 1, for the word 'Twentieth' the word 'twenty-first' be substituted."

2. "That at page 1, line 4, for the figure '1969' the figure '1970' be substituted."

The questions were put and the motions were adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JANKA BEHARY DAS) : The question is :

"That clause 1, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Clause I. as amended, was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Form and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The question was proposed.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Sir, I want to say something. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Law stated that the pendency in the Supreme Court is increasing and he said that one way must be found to reduce it. One way is to strengthen the Supreme Court. And the other way is to recruit proper persons to the Supreme Court so that pendency is reduced. Sir, in the future of things, when the country is developing so many people would go to the Supreme Court and so many litigations would take place. But the litigations can be avoided and reduced pro-

vided the Government has the courage to amend the Constitution of India, particularly the part relating to fundamental rights. This Government for the last three years is still considering whether or not to support the Bill that was moved by Shri Nath Pai in the other House. They should have the courage to come forward to amend the Constitution. If only this is done the litigation would go. This right to property will go and so many cases will never come to the Supreme Court or even to the High Court.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Have you anything to say ?

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : I have already stated our position.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY : Let him say whether he is going to support the Bill moved by Comrade Nath Pai or not. Mr. Nath Pai's Bill is pending in the Lok Sabha.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : We will see when the time comes. The Bill is pending in the Lok Sabha. It has not come to the Rajya Sabha yet.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : The question is :

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed".

The motion was added.

#### **FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS RELATING TO STATEMENT BY MINISTER MADE ON THE 31ST JULY, 1970 RE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COTTON CORPORATION OF INDIA**

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Now at 5 o'clock we have to take up clarifications on the statement regarding the establishment of the Cotton Corporation of India.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : We can take it up now with the approval of the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Is it the pleasure of the House that we should take it up immediately ?

HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

SHRI JABUBHAI M. CHINAI (Maharashtra) : Sir, before we take it up I want to make one small submission. Last Friday when this question was being discussed, in the heat of the moment I had said something derogatory to the hon. Deputy Minister which I should not have said. On page 447 of the debate, I have said : "The poor fellow has no knowledge of the subject." I would like to withdraw these words. I am really sorry for what I have said.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Thank you. Now, anybody wants to put questions ?

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : I was on my legs that day, Sir.

On that day, we were told by the hon. Deputy Minister that "as regards the internal trade, this Corporation will enter only when the prices go below the support prices." I would like to know from the hon. Minister of State whether this statement stands correct today also because the statement made in the name of the Minister by the Deputy Minister on that day does not denote this. Secondly, I wanted to know why the Government has come to this decision of taking over the internal trade also along with the import trade. In fact, the statistics of the last few years show that the production of cotton is static. It has not increased. On the contrary, it has decreased and it goes five or six lakhs below the average estimate which is given. Why doesn't the Government try to increase the production of cotton instead of taking over the internal trade ?

Then, in the case of the Princes and others, even though the decisions were taken one-and-a-half or two years ago, still negotiations are going on just to see that everything is straightened out. In this case, where the traders are going to be on the street, where about three lakhs families are involved—and if you take

32Rs/70

an average of four persons per family, it comes to 10 or 12 lakhs of people. Is the Government thinking of having negotiations and talks so far as the internal trade is concerned ? After this Corporation is formed and after thinking of taking over this import trade, in due course—so that the Government may not be in a haste to take over the internal trade and hit the trade ? Thirdly, I wanted to know whether the Government has come to any decision so far as the hedge contract concerned. Everybody who knows about the trade knows that hedge contract is not speculation and it is only a device to regulate the marketing of cotton.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : Only the traders know it.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : I did not say that Mr. Kulkarni knows it.

The fourth point is, in the statement the hon. Minister has said that the Government will come into the picture for support prices. The question of support prices to-day does not arise in view of the fact that the prices are so high and there is no necessity for support prices. There is no question that the farmers or the producers should get a fair price for their cotton. Now, what is the exact position of the ginners ? The ginners are in the private sector. If the internal trade is going to be taken over and if the import trade is also going to be taken over, are the ginners also going to be nationalised ? I would like to know that also. So far as the import of cotton is concerned, the distribution today is done on the spindle basis. As I explained the other day, the distribution is very irrational. Those who are using it have to pay a premium to the coarse mills which are not using it and thereby their cost goes up. Ultimately this is an indirect way of giving money to the people who are not using any foreign cotton either of Sudan or of Egypt. Finally, I hope the Minister knows that the amount earmarked for the purpose by the Centre for 1968-69 for cotton production was Rs. 74 lakhs whereas in 1969-70 it is Rs. 90 lakhs only. If we can earmark Rs. 10 crores every year—and it is not a very big amount—we can save easily

TSbri Babubhai M. Chinai about Rs. 70 to Rs. 90 crores foreign exchange on the import of cotton only. In view of this position may I know from the honourable Minister whether it would be possible for the Government to reconsider the whole issue and come to some decision which would be fitting with their views and which will also ease the difficulties of the trader ?

In the end I would only ask the Minister whether he knows the saying, "fa\*m TRT scrrq-rfr, iTT^1 WTfTORTI" That means the people, whose king or Government is a businessman, his people become paupers; they become beggars. I hope from this angle also the honourable Minister will be kind enough to enlighten us.

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : Sir, first take up the last question of Shri Babubhai Chinai about reconsidering the whole issue. My answer is "No". Our decision is irrevocable and we will go ahead with that decision. Then Shri Babubhai seems to be concerned about our domestic cotton trade. I can allay his misgivings about it. There is nothing of that sort. I will read out a small portion which puts the situation exactly as it is,

"In the field of domestic trade, the Corporation will make a beginning with undertaking purchases for certain specific objectives. The growers of cotton will be assured of an agency which will give them the necessary price support. The more enterprising cultivator growing the new varieties will have an agency to buy the extra long staple cotton at fair prices. In the process, we will also be setting up an agency with the necessary expertise for procuring the cotton for the mills under the purview of the National Textile Corporation. The Corporation would also be prepared to assist private sector mills in their programme of cotton purchases."

I will explain a little further.

"It will be the endeavour of this Corporation to effect the change-over smoothly and to utilise, in the effort,

the accumulated skills in the field of import trade and domestic cotton. The Corporation will make every effort to so organise its operations that no inconvenience is caused to the growers and consumers of cotton nor any dislocation is caused so far as other cotton interests are concerned."

In fact, domestic cotton trade can be carried on unaffected as hitherto as the Corporation has not taken over this trade as such. About other things...

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN (Andhra Pradesh) : Unemployment of internal trade,

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I must say that our object is to take over the domestic trade also. But I am not going to take over the domestic trade this year or the next year. It will take some years before we can come to this decision to take over the domestic trade completely. Bue we are going in this direction mainly with a view to giving support to the growers in the field of getting and selling cotton at fair prices.

Then about the negotiations, Sir there is no question of having any negotiations at this stage because we are not entering the domestic trade at all. About unemployment question, probably Shri Babubhai Chinai has been very much misled on this point. My information is only about 1,000 or 1,500 people are employed in the import trade of cotton. We are going to avail of their services also as far as possible because we will need their services for handling the goods when we take over hundred per cent. So far as those who are engaged in the domestic trade are concerned, we are not going to touch them. Therefore, this question of unemployment does not

5 P.M. arise. He raised the question of hedge-trading. Two days earlier also he raised this question. As a matter of fact, it is for the Ministry of Internal Trade. This is something like forward trading. I read out a small paragraph on this :

"Hedge trading has been an important device to regulate marketing of cotton. Hedge-trading in cotton was suspended in the cotton year of 1965-66."

We are not stopping it today. It was stopped in 1965-66. Hedge-trading is accompanied by speculation in price. When cotton crop is unusually large or small, the speculation becomes accentuated. In 1965-66 was a year of poor cotton crop and it was stopped. Whether it will be renewed or not, I cannot say because it is a matter for the Ministry of Internal Revenue. It is a speculative business and most likely, Government will not like to enter into this field at the moment.

He also asked whether the distribution will be on a pooled basis. Actually this is a suggestion whether cotton will be allotted on a pooled basis or actually on a production basis. This is a matter which we will consider and we will apply our mind to this aspect...

( interruptions )

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : Will the Government examine whether superfine cotton which is being imported is utilised by coarse mills or not ? If it is not used and if a premium has to be paid for it, why unnecessarily give it to coarse mill people ? In the statement of the Minister it was said that it would be given to actual users.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : The present system of distribution was arrived at probably at the instance of the mill-owners. We have accepted that system. As I said we will apply our mind to this.

It was said that the money spent on development of cotton crop is very little. It is a fact that the allotment is poor. We will try to impress upon the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry and request them to make bigger allotment. The Agricultural Ministry is also concerned with this.

About reconsideration, I have already answered. I will tell him again that our main purpose at the moment is to go in for import trade 100 per cent. A question was raised as to how far we will be successful. Our main import is from the UAR, Sudan and such countries where only public sector undertakings are handling the cotton trade. Therefore, if we have a public sector organisation at this end, we thought it would be better for us. If we have something on par with their organisations then perhaps we can show better performance in the cotton trade and I hope the House will accept the necessity of having this kind of corporation.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : About credit, it is only 30 per cent. Will they give 100 per cent credit?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : That is a suggestion.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI : It is a fact.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : You did not reply to his last question.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Which question ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : What happens when the Government takes up business ?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) : Sir, I am very happy that the Government has formed this corporation and has thus implemented a suggestion made long back. In the ultimate analysis, this will help our agriculturists. Sir, I wanted to draw the attention of the Government to this point : Sudan and Egypt have got a higher per acre yield in the whole world, just like in America, because it is more than America also. So, the entire cotton trade is in the hands of the Government there. Where is it in the hands of the private trade ? It is only in America. So, in Sudan and Egypt, it is in the hands of the Government. But, Sir, I really want to, what you call, draw the attention of the Minister to a more important point.

[Shri A. G. Kulkarni] In Egypt and Sudan, where, Sir, we 'have sent some team of our co-operative agriculturists to see how they grow, it is in the Government sector and they are given enormous loans up to forty years at a very low rate of interest to grow cotton.

Sir, you may be surprised and the House may be surprised to note that the land is also pooled together and whatever cotton is grown, the Government takes a certain percentage at a fixed price and the balance of the crop grown on the very area is free to the agriculturist to sell anywhere. I request the Government to consider this to be followed in this country if they want really to increase the per acre yield in this country.

Then, Sir, another point : It is about the utilization of expertise. Here also I want to draw the attention of the Government and I draw in Shri China! also there. There is a large expertise available, developed during the last hundred to two hundred years, in the import of cotton as well as in the sale of internal cotton. But, as the Minister has rightly stated, internal cotton is not going to come into the Government sector. Here also the Minister must not be complacent. Here, on the question of cotton procurement, he cannot assure any trading body that he will not come in to the extent that whenever price decrease will be there, Government will step in to purchase whatever cotton is available and pool it through their own resources and their own procurement agencies like the marketing co-operatives or the State Trading Corporation or the Cotton Corporation and I want to draw the attention of the Minister to this that he must categorically state that he will do it in the interest of the agriculturist. Otherwise, the agriculturists will be there to be exploited by the traders.

On my third point also I wanted to draw the attention o'f the Minister. He must also not yield at all to the threats being put by the trading bodies in this country. For the last fifteen days I am seeing the 'gheraos' and 'satyagraha' being done by these cotton traders in

Bombay and the threats given in Delhi. Sir, through you I request the Minister to let it be known to all these capitalists who are interested in the cotton trade that the Government is made of ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. K. MOHTA (Rajasthan) : Instead of asking any question, will he go on speaking like this ? ...

(Interruptions)

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Here is another representative of that class.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Sir, instead of putting it in the form of a question...

(Interruptions')

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : What, in the form of putting questions ? You go on giving threats and doing 'gherao' ... (Interruptions). If you have got the guts to go before a labour union . . . (Interruptions). ... I am not threatening. I am only requesting the Government for a clarification. When the threats are being given in this country by the capitalists, this is really a very queer phenomenon. They are exploiting the agriculturists and they have exploited the agriculturists up-till now and they are threatening the Government. It should not yield. That is what I am saying.

My last point, Sir ...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Still another point left ?

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINA! : I have asked the questions. You have not answered.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : You feel so. My last point particularly is that the Government should also explore the possibility of utilization of the expertise already available. I request through you, Sir, the trading community of this country also. They have decided to dissociate from the Government in offering expertise in the import of cotton. This will be an anti-national act. This will not be a correct approach

for any Indun to say that he will not be co-operating with the Government when steps are beng taken in the social interest and in the interest of the agriculturists.

SHRI L. M. MISHRA : Sir, Mr. Kul-karni is cor ect when he says that the Government should step in whenever any difficulty is experienced by the growers or agriculturists. We have taken the decision that we shall be in the market. So far as the Government is concerned, ii shall be there in the market offer ng price support to the agriculturists If any agriculturist or grower want to sell his cotton to the Government, the Corporation will be there to pure iase it. This year itself the Corporation "/ill make purchases as and when cotton is available to it.

About increasing the yield in cotton, it is a fact that our performance so far has not been comparable even to what has been h, ppening in the UAR or Sudan. Mr. ICulkarni was correct when he said that i the UAR or Sudan the State guides hem what kind of cotton they should [row. what kind of seeds and 'fertilisers they should use, and it is very well organised there, especially in the UAR. Ii fact I was studying this thing myself ; nd now I will see to what extent the Government can help the agriculturists >r growers. It will be our endeavour to help them as much as we can. But I most confess that we are far behind in thk respect. I can only assure the House th; t I will use my good offices and of the other Ministries to help them in this task.

About the t ireat from cotton traders, I do not thinl there is any kind of threat but it s a fact that in the past two or three weeks I was getting telegrams and sor le dharnas were also organised telling n e not to take any decision now. But wc have not waited and we have already taken a decision and the Corporation his just been registered at Bombay and t will be headed by a Chairman and managed by a Managing Director. It will start functioning from the 1st of September. First it will enter the import tn.Je and eventually it will take over the domestic trade also but that take som • years. Of course after

developing our expertise and necessary machinery we will take to domestic trade also but it might take many years; I cannot forecast when the State will be in a position to take over this kind of complicated trade. With regard to the internal trade, we will not do anything which will dislocate the present arrangement in the cotton trade, Sir.

**डा० भाई महावीर (दिल्ली) :** उपसभा-ध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन के द्वारा या किसी और माध्यम से इसके पहले भी रुई के आयात व्यापार को अपने हाथ में लेने का फैसला किया था, अगर किया था तो कब किया था, कितनी देर वह प्रयोग चला और उस प्रयोग का अनुभव क्या है। क्या वह प्रयोग सफल रहा था? यदि वह असफल रहा था तो उस असफलता के कारणों को खोजने की सरकार ने क्या कोशिश की और बिना पिछले अनुभवों का लाभ उठाए या उसके कारणों की खोज किये सरकार नये फैसले के ऊपर चली है तो क्या इसमें सरकार पिछले किसी भी ज्ञान का लाभ आज की नीति बनाने में इस्तेमाल करना उपयोगी नहीं समझती।

दूसरा प्रश्न मेरा यह है कि अब तक का अनुभव यह है कि सरकार जिस काम को अपने हाथ में लेती है उस के अंदर राजनैतिक प्रभाव आते हैं, राजनैतिक व्यक्ति वहां बिठाये जाते हैं निर्णय करने के लिये और सरकार के हाथ में किसी भी तंत्र के आने के बाद उसका राजनैतिक लाभ उठाना, यह एक सत्तारूढ़ दल का काम हो जाता है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आज जो नियुक्तियां करेंगे, चाहे मैनेजिंग डाइरेक्टर का, चैयरमैन का या दूसरे बड़े अधिकारियों का, तो क्या वह नियुक्तियां राजनैतिक विचार के आधार पर होंगी या कि उनकी योग्यता के आधार पर। इसके विषय में सरकार क्या आश्वासन दे सकती है कि इस प्रयोग को सफल बनाने के लिये कम से कम राजनैतिक दृष्टि से नियुक्ति नहीं की जायेगी।

[डा० भाई महावीर]

तीसरा प्रश्न महोदय मेरा यह है कि क्या सरकार को इसमें यह खतरा नहीं दिखाई देता कि इस व्यापार का सरकारीकरण करते हुए इसका नीकरशाहीकरण, व्यूरोक्रेटाइजेशन हो जायेगा। इस प्रकार का कोई डर इस सरकार के दिमाग में आया कि नहीं। जितने साहस से और जितने विश्वास से मंत्री महोदय कह रहे हैं नहीं और हां, उससे लगता है बहादुरी तो काफी है, दिलेरी काफी है, लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, जो दिलेरी में सरकार ने विचार किया है? नीकरशाही का प्रभाव अगर इस सारे व्यापार पर पड़ा, इस सारे तंत्र को लाने के ऊपर, तो इसका परिणाम इष्ट नहीं होगा और वह असफलता में परिणत हो सकते हैं। मैं एक क्षण में इस संबंध में उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक सरकार जानती है कि इस्पात का जो उत्पादन हुआ है, वह बड़ी मात्रा में सरकार के हाथ में है और देश में जो तीन बड़े स्टील प्लान्ट्स हैं, पब्लिक सेक्टर में उनके कारण हुआ है। कुछ अरसे पहले जब स्टील का स्टाक यार्ड सरकार ने बनाया था तो ज्वाइन्ट प्लांट कमेटी ने उन स्टाक यार्डों का महत्व नहीं बढ़ाया था। उस समय व्यापारियों के हाथ में मार्केट में जो स्टील आता था, उस पर 25 साल कंट्रोल रहने के बाद जो हैन्डलिंग चार्ज थे, जो मिडिलमैन को खर्चा दिया जाता था, एलाउन्सेज दिये जाते थे वह 50 और 55 रु० से ज्यादा नहीं था। आज जो स्टाक यार्ड है, जिसमें हिन्दुस्तान स्टील का भी स्टाक यार्ड है, उनको जो एलाउन्सेज दिये जाते हैं, हैन्डलिंग चार्ज दिये जाते हैं, मार्जिन और प्राफिट दिया जाता है, वह 70 रु० से 370 रु० टन तक है। यह जो इतना माजिन है, वह कंज्यूमर्स के ऊपर पड़ता है, छोटे-छोटे उत्पादकों के ऊपर पड़ता है, स्माल स्केल इन्डस्ट्री के ऊपर पड़ता है, फैब्रिकेशन के ऊपर पड़ता है और फोर्जेज के ऊपर पड़ता है। क्या सरकार यह नहीं सोचती है कि अपने हाथ में लेने के बाद यह व्यवस्था व्यूरोक्रेटिक कंट्रोल में चली

जायेगी और अफसरशाहियों के हाथ में यह चीज आ जायेगी, जहां पर बहुत ज्यादा खर्चे बढ़ते हैं। इन खर्चों के कारण सरकार जो रीलिफ और राहत जनता को देना चाहती है, वह राहत उनको नहीं मिलती और उल्टा घाटा उठाना पड़ रहा है। सरकार यह कहेगी कि पहले के खर्चों में और आजकल के खर्चों में फर्क है। लेकिन मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो लोहे के व्यापारी हैं, वे अब भी इन स्टाक यार्डों के मुकाबले में आधा कमिशन लेकर सारे लोहे के व्यापार को हैंडल करने के लिए तैयार बनलाये जाते हैं।

मुपर बाजार का तजुर्बा हमारे सामने है। सरकार ने मुपर बाजार इस आश्वासन पर खड़ा किया था . . . .

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Can you not be very concise ? After giving one illustration it is sufficient.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : This is the only illustration I am giving.

मुपर बाजार इस भरोसे पर खड़ा किया गया था कि उसके द्वारा बाजार में कीमत कम होगी। दिल्ली का जो मुपर बाजार है वह कीमत कम नहीं कर सका और इस व्यापार में सरकार को लाखों रुपये का घाटा उठाना पड़ा और यह घाटा आज टैक्सपेयर के ऊपर डाला जा रहा है। अब समस्या यह है कि किस तरह से आगे मुपर बाजार चले, क्योंकि वह आज अपना किराया देने की भी हैसियत में नहीं है। हर बार सरकार उसको नया कर्जा देकर जिन्दा रख रही है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह से कर्जा देकर सरकार कितने दिनों तक उसको जिन्दा रखना चाहती है।

श्रीमन्, मैं एक दो छोटे-छोटे स्पष्टीकरण और चाहता हूँ। इसमें आपने कहा है कि जो एक्जुमिलिटेड स्किल आफ दी ट्रेड है उसका भी लाभ उठायेंगे। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कब और किस तरह से इन स्किल्स का सरकार लाभ उठायेगी और क्या सरकार

ने इस बात का निर्णय कर लिया है कि उनका उपयोग पूरे तौर पर वह कर सकेगी और हमेशा उनका उपयोग होता रहेगा या फिर यह केवल आंसू पोंछने की बात होगी ताकि जिन लोगों के काम-धाम छूट गये हैं, उनसे कहा जा रहा है कि तुम्हें इसमें एवजाब कर लिया जायेगा।

प्राइस सपोर्ट की बात कही गई है एक लक्ष्य के तौर पर, लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने इस बात का अध्ययन किया है। क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि पिछले दो वर्षों में कितने मौके ऐसे आये, जब कपास की कीमत इतनी नीची चली गई, जिसमें इसको सपोर्ट करने की आवश्यकता सरकार को अनुभव हुई और अगर कम कीमत हुई है, तब इस सपोर्ट करने की बात बात का अर्थ ही नहीं होता है।

श्रीमन्, आखिर में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह कहा गया है कि यू० ए० आर० और मुडान में पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग्स काम करते हैं। श्री कुलकर्णी जी ने भी कहा कि वहाँ पर पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग्स काम करते हैं, तो यहाँ पर पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग्स इस काम के लिए ज्यादा उपयुक्त होंगे। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार इस तरीके पर सोच रही है कि जिस तरह से सारे कम्युनिस्ट देशों के साथ आज उसका व्यापार होता है; क्योंकि वहाँ पर तो पब्लिक सेक्टर और गवर्नमेंट एजेंसियों के द्वारा ही व्यापार होता है, तो क्या वहाँ से आयात होनी वाली सारी चीजें वहाँ पर एस० टी० सी के द्वारा या सरकारी एजेंसी के द्वारा सरकार करवायेगी। क्या सरकार इस तरह का निर्णय लेने के लिए तैयार है; क्योंकि प्राइवेट एजेंसियों के द्वारा बाग की सरकारों से जब व्यापार होता है, तो इससे उलझने और कई तरह का गोलमाल होने का खतरा पैदा होता है।

एक प्रश्न मैं यह और करना चाहूँगा कि जो वक्तव्य दिया गया है उसको मैंने अच्छी

तरह से पढ़ा है और मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि इस सारे वक्तव्य में जो यह चीज दी गई है : The Corporation will consult the user mills in regard to requirements and conclude contracts in consultation with them. इसमें यह दिया हुआ है कि यूजर्स मिलों के साथ कांट्रैक्ट किये जायेंगे और उनके साथ कंसल्टेशन किया जायेगा। जब ये यूजर्स मिल आपके कांट्रैक्ट पूरा नहीं करेंगे, तो आप एक नया मिडिलमैन या नया मोनोपोलिस्ट बनायेंगे, जिस तरह से आपने इम्पोर्ट ट्रेड में एक नया मोनोपोलिस्ट बनाया है। यहाँ पर मोनोपोलिस्ट के खिलाफ शोर मचाया जाता है। हमारे मित्र श्री कुलकर्णी जी इस चीज का बहुत जोरों के साथ स्वागत करते हैं और इस वास्ते करते हैं कि यह मोनोपोली स्टेट के हाथ में आ रही है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह मोनोपोली स्टेट के हाथ में आने के बाद क्या आपने इस बात का प्रबन्ध कर लिया है कि जो मोनोपोली में दोष होते हैं खास कर थ्युरोक्रेटिक मोनोपोली में जो दोष होते हैं, वह इसमें नहीं आयेंगे। क्या यह तजुर्बा सफल होगा और इसका बाइ टैक्सपेयर के गर्दन में नहीं पड़ेगा, इन सब बातों का मैं स्पष्टीकरण चाहता हूँ।

**श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र :** भाई महावीर ने जो बातें उठाई हैं, वे मौलिक बातें उठाई हैं, जिनका नीति से संबंध है और मैं उनका किस तरह से उत्तर दूँ यह बात समझ में नहीं आती है। हमारी और उनकी आर्थिक नीति में इतना भेद है कि एक दूसरे को समझना मुश्किल जान पड़ता है। उनका अगर यह विचार है कि एस० टी० सी० एक मोनोपोलिस्टिक है, तो उनके और मेरे विचार एक हो सकते हैं, मैं इस बात में जाना नहीं चाहता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : There is no necessity to reply to that point because that is a broad issue. So you please confine yourself to this.



**श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र :** जहाँ तक एस० टी० सी० द्वारा ट्रेड में नुकसान उठाने की बात है, ऐसी बात नहीं है। अभी तक एस० टी० सी० ने इम्पोर्ट नहीं किया। सिर्फ बंगाल के किसानों को मदद करने के लिए उसने रुई खरीदी थी। जो फैबर प्राइस है उसका 10 प्रतिशत ज्यादा देकर किसानों को मदद करने के लिए उसने 30 हजार बेलें खरीदी। किसानों की मदद करने के लिए इस तरह का काम एस० टी० सी० को करना पड़ा और इस कारपोरेशन को भी यही काम करना होगा ताकि किसानों की मदद की जा सके और उन्हें उचित कीमत मिल सके। जब ऐसे दिन आयेंगे कि किसानों को घाटा उठाना पड़े तो उस समय उनकी मदद की जा सकती है और अगर इसमें घाटा उठाना भी पड़े तो यह हमारे आर्थिक नीति के विरुद्ध बात नहीं होगी।

**डा० भाई महावीर :** तो आप आयात को अपने हाथ में क्यों नहीं ले लेते।

**श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र :** एस० टी० सी० ने अभी तक नहीं किया। बंगाल में तो विशेष परिस्थिति हो गई थी।

जहाँ तक एक्वाइजिमेंट का सवाल है चैंबर-मैन और मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर का तो हम इस बात पर अवश्य विचार करेंगे और देखेंगे कि जिनके पास इस चीज का अनुभव है, जिनके पास इस काम को करने की क्षमता है, कंपैसिटी है, उन्हीं को इसमें रखा जायेगा।

जहाँ तक ब्यूरोक्रेटिक की बात है, यह एक लम्बी बात है, यह एक मौलिक बात है, जिसमें हमारा और उनमें मतभेद है। मैं इतना ही कहूंगा कि जहाँ एस० टी० सी० की चर्चा हुई, उसका काम बुरा नहीं हुआ। उनकी नजर तो केवल स्टील की तरफ गई। मैं उनसे दो तीन बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं परसों ही एस० टी० सी० के दफ्तर में गया था। उसकी हालत देखने से मुझे खुशी हुई और वह अच्छा काम कर रहा है। अब वह मुनाफा कर रहा है और अच्छा व्यापार

भी कर रहा है ;। एस० एम० टी० सी० का भी मंत्रालय मैंने देखा और वह भी अच्छा काम कर रहा है। उसमें भी मुनाफा होता है। वह मुनाफा सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में जाता है, किसी के जेब में नहीं जाता है। डिफेन्स प्रोडक्शन का जो मंत्रालय है, उसको देख कर भी खुशी हुई है। इसमें प्रोडक्शन हर साल दुगुना होता जा रहा है और मुनाफा भी दुगुना होता जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप अच्छी जगह नजर दौड़ाने की कौशिश कीजिये और हमेशा गन्दी जगह पर ही नजर डालने की कौशिश न कीजिये।

जहाँ तक लाभ उठाने की बात है, मैं उनसे कहूंगा कि हम अपने अनुभव से लाभ उठावेंगे। जैसा कि स्टेटमेंट में दिया गया है कि हम मिल वालों के साथ रहेंगे, उनके लिए रुई खरीदेंगे और इस काम में उनसे हर प्रकार की सलाह लेंगे। इसके साथ ही साथ हम किसानों की भलाई को भी ध्यान में रखेंगे। हम इस नतीजे में पहुंचे हैं कि यह चीज देश हित में है और अच्छी है। जहाँ तक सौदा करने की बात है, हम यह काम अच्छे ढंग से करेंगे ताकि देश के लिए और व्यापार के लिए अच्छा हो।

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR: He has not answered my question, Sir. I asked if the Government will consider taking over all import trade from all communist countries applying the same logic.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Don't you think that is a broader issue? So I asked him to confine himself to this question of the nationalisation of cotton trade.

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Still he can say that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : He need not reply to that point here. Now Mr. Dharia.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA (Maharashtra) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, while welcoming the Cotton Corporation of

India may I know from the hon. Minister, when he said that they shall not touch domestic trade, whether it is not a fact that in the statement it is very clearly stated that in the field of domestic trade the corporation will make a beginning with undertaking purchases for certain specific objectives? At the same time the Agricultural Prices Commission has recommended the public sector for the purchase, sale and equitable distribution of domestic cotton and also for canalisation of imported cotton. On the basis of this recommendation will the hon. Minister clarify in the House that it will be the endeavour of this Corporation to see that even domestic trade is gradually taken over and all possible encouragement will be given to the agriculturists? It is true there may be three lakhs of families but let us not forget that these three lakhs of families have all the while exploited the agriculturists in the country. We shall have to do away with these middlemen. They may perish; as suffer but some ultimatum shall have to be served on them. It does not mean that the monopoly of exploitation, should be continued. May I request the hon. Minister to clarify this point?

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the country is well aware that last year we imported cotton worth Rs. 90 crores. Though this Corporation is established for cancelling the imports, it should be the endeavour of this Corporation to see that as far as possible we do away with these imports and grow these varieties in this country and the farmers are given all possible incentives to grow the longstaple and other varieties. The Corporation should make efforts in that direction by taking co-operation from all the concerned Ministries.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Do I understand that if cotton is not imported you are prepared to close down all the textile mills and thereby have unemployment also and lose foreign exchange which is earned by export of textiles?

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I have made it very-

clear that it should be the endeavour of the Corporation to do away with these imports that means it will be gradual by producing more and more the cotton that is required in the country, otherwise it is not possible. But I can say this that if this endeavour is made, within three years this country can become self-reliant. I have no doubt whatsoever because there are scientists in the country who have made many experiments but because these traders were interested in import trade, because they were interested in gaining crores and crores, they objected all the while and they did not...

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : How do the traders come in the way of more production?

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : I mean by traders imported houses; not necessarily cotton traders.

SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI :  
How many are imported houses and how many are traders?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : How long can we go on like this?

SHRI M. M. DHARIA : Because of the obstructions created by some established import houses who are interested in the cotton trade those schemes were never allowed to be successful. That is why I say this Corporation should encourage such schemes to produce long-staple varieties in this country, and should endeavour to see that we are self-sufficient in cotton, in all varieties that are required by the country. These are my suggestions. Government should not at any cost be pressured or allowed to be pressurised by these cotton traders. They have talked of gharaos and other things. It should be welcomed. Let them come in the streets so that their business can be gradually taken over without any resistance.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am sorry my friend, Mr. Mohan Dharia has perhaps mis-

understood me. If I have said that the Corporation shall not touch domestic trade—I do not think I have said like that but even if I have created that impression—I would like to withdraw that and remove any impression of that kind. As a matter of fact in this connection I read out a long paragraph and I have said that eventually we shall take over the domestic trade. We are making a start with purchasing of long-staple variety of cotton. I said we shall purchase cotton for the National Textile Corporation and also for the private mills if they desired. Therefore we are entering the domestic trade this year itself. What I said however was that we are not banning private trade in the domestic field. Our ultimate object is to take over domestic trade also; otherwise how can this public sector corporation function effectively?

About shortage, it is true that we have got a 'shortage but it is only about 10 to 12 per cent. Six to seven lakh bales we import from outside and if efforts are made, if new varieties are tried to be grown here, if fertiliser is provided, if all other efforts are made, I am sure we can become self-sufficient in cotton.

It will take some time and other Ministries will have also to be approached for this. This is what I have to say in reply to Mr. Dharia. As regards being bullied or being pressurised, I would request Mr. Mohan Dharia to have trust in the Government and in us. We are not going to be pressurised much less by those people who have their meetings in the Ashoka Hotel or the Taj Mahal Hotel.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY (Mysore): Mr. Vice-Chairman, in view of the fact that adequate encouragement has not been given to improving the quality of cotton, to increase the yield and to increase the acreage, will his Ministry impress on the concerned Ministries to increase the allotment for improving cotton? Secondly, I would like to know whether any development fund will be created from the transactions of this Corporation. Thirdly, the

cotton-growers are not getting a fair deal. Will the Ministry declare a minimum floor price every season for different qualities of cotton? I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Minister that in many States there are regulated markets. Cotton is auctioned there, but at times it so happens that the purchasers and millowners conspire to bring down the prices. They will not lift the cotton at all. They will not go to the regulated market to auction the cotton and sometimes for a week or ten days the cotton will be lying in the yards. May I know whether the Government is thinking of an agency whereby they will get a good price for the cotton that is brought to the regulated market and whether they will give adequate financial assistance to some of the agricultural produce marketing societies which are dealing in cotton and which go to the regulated for auctioning purposes? May I know whether adequate steps will be taken by the Government to see that a proper and fair price is paid to the (cotton) growers?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : This is the same question about the increase in the yield of cotton. It is accepted by everyone that we should do something about it. The suggestion of the hon. Member will be taken into account, about the floor price even today. . .

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: I asked about the development fund.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I am coming to that. Even today we have floor prices, but the prices operating in the market are much above the floor prices so far. About the development fund, I cannot say at this stage what the Corporation will do. It will be for the Corporation to take all these points into consideration when they are functioning.

SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY: He did not answer my question, viz. in the regulated markets the purchasers and millowners conspire to bring down the price and there is no adequate agency to see that a proper

price is given to the cotton-grower. What steps are you going to take ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: This Corporation will be there to offer price support to the agriculturist. When the Corporation is there to make purchases of cotton, the agriculturist will go to the Corporation to sell his cotton. When the traders are not giving then a fair price there will be the Corporation to offer them a fair price and they will accept a price from the agriculturist.

SHRI VI. K. MOHTA : Sir, the hon. Minister said that the Government is not going to be pressurised or bullied by these cotton traders. It is quite understandable, but when 3 lakhs of people are in danger of losing their bread and butter, naturally they will be extremely agitated and will try to put forward their case before the Government. I do not know what exactly is the implication of the hon. Minister's statement when on the one hand he says that the internal trade is going to be taken over by the Government by and by and on the other hand he says that it may take two or three or ten years. I do not know what exactly is the intention of the Government. What will happen to these 3 lakhs of people ? Do you expect all of them to become Government servants ? The hon. Minister said that he wanted all cooperation. Should all these people become Government servants in the name of cooperation ?

DR. B. N. ANTANI (Gujarat): Government not slaves, not servants.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : What exactly is the financial implication of taking over the internal trade ? The cotton production in India today amounts in value to something like Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 crores. When it is increased year by year as it is sought to be done up to 80 lakh bales, the total value will become Rs. 800 crores to Rs. 1000 crores. What sort of funds and resources will be needed in order to turn it into Rs. 1000 crores worth of cotton ? The Government day and night have been saying we have no resources for development, we have no resources for famine relief, we have no

resources for construction of canals. Yet the Government is going to tie up a sizeable amount of money in trading which is already being done by the private people. If the same amount of time, energy and funds were to be spent on increasing the production of cotton, I have no doubt that Rs. 100 crores of foreign exchange which we are spending today on the import of cotton will definitely be saved. Therefore, I would like the Minister to state very clearly the financial implications.

The Cotton Corporation has been formed with a capital of Rs. 1 crore. Nothing can be done with Rs. 1 crore when commodities worth Rs. 600 crores of internal cotton and Rs. 100 crores of imported cotton are involved. What is the Government going to do with Rs. 1 crore only ? Therefore, this House is entitled to know the exact financial implications and I would request the hon. Minister to state them.

Secondly, the hon. Minister said that in the exporting countries there is a centralised trade and therefore in our importing country also we should have a centralised organisation. Japan is today the biggest buyer of cotton all over the world where there is no centralised operation there. Yet Japan is able to buy cotton at competitive rates, produce cloth at competitive rates and export to the whole world at competitive rates. How is Japan able to do that ? It is doing it even today. Even in Britain, which is a big importer of cotton, there is no centralised agency. What exactly is the case Government is making for a centralised agency in India I do not understand.

Thirdly, the question of monopoly purchase by a centralised agency. Is it going to help the agriculturists or will it be against their interests ? I do not know how the hon. Members and the Government also talk about floor price and support price. Support price and floor price have been in existence for the last several years, and not once has any occasion arisen when prices went below these prices during the last four or five years so far as I can

[Shri M. K. Mohta] remember, the Government prepared to give a categorical assurance to this House that the proposed Corporation rather than the former Corporation, would enter the domestic market only for price support operations and not otherwise? If that is really the intention—because to me it seems that the real intention is quite different—Sir, today the situation is that instead of support price or floor price the existing market price is several times the support price announced by the Government. The millowners are vying with each other to pay a higher price to the agriculturist so that they may get their requirement of cotton. When there is a centralised purchasing agency of the Government, when they will fix one price for everyone and the agriculturist will be forced to sell to this agency, would it be in the interest of the agriculturist or would it be in the interest of the bureaucracy only?

These points require to be clarified.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: About domestic trade. I have explained at considerable length and I do not want to enter into an argument about monopoly purchase etc., or what Japan is doing. If we have a public sector organisation for import of cotton, the interests of the country, the interests of the traders and the interests of the cotton-growers will be in safer hands. About his other point, our ultimate objective is eventually to take over domestic trade. In the present situation we cannot do it. We have no machinery, we have no expertise, we have no know-how. What will happen after five or ten years I cannot say at this stage.

But our objective is to take over the domestic trade also. But I will request the hon. Member not to me to spell out the whole details. It is not possible for me. What I have stated today about domestic trade stands for some years to come. It will not be possible for the Corporation, as we have been able to follow and understand, to take over the whole of the domestic trade immediately.

About giving floor price or support price. I am not entering into any argument. There has been the Agricultural Prices Enquiry Committee. They have suggested what should be the price support. If there is a price support, the agriculturists will get a fair price for their products. The hon. Member says that the price that the grower has been getting is over and above the price support or the floor price. It is a fact. This is mainly because of the fact that there is floor price there. Therefore, the agriculturist is assured of fair prices. It plays its own part. Price support or floor price, it plays its own part on the agriculturist.

About the domestic trade, I will not add anything more to what I have said in the paragraph that I read out to the House. And I will request the cotton traders, through hon. Member in the House, not to get unnecessarily panicky, but cooperate with us. They are not going to be our slaves or servants. They will be traders. Only the interests of the growers will be safer in our hands.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : What about the financial implications? Sir, what are the financial implications?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Will you answer that question? He raised that question.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I have stated earlier that we are not going to enter into the domestic trade. Of course, it means Rs. 500 crores to Rs. 600 crores. But we are not going to enter into the domestic trade. Therefore, there is no confusion over these things.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Imports will be Rs. 100 crores. The capital is Rs. 1 crore.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Sir, he is a business man. It is not industry, it is trade. He asks, from where you will get money? Does he not simply know that? It is not industry, it is trade.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY (Mysore) : The statement made by the

Minister h is made confusion worse confounded, fe admits that he has not the know-how for dealing with internal trade of cotton. If he has not got the know-how about the internal trade in cotton, is he sure that he has got the know-how and the expertise for dealing with the import trade ? I would like to know. Secondly a number of people have asked before me, what is the scheme: you have evolved for making use of the expertise of the private traders, the private importers, for the benefit of the country and for the benefit of the Corporation as well. The Minister is not got with him anything evidently. That is why has not been able to answer that question. I would like to know if he has got any practical scheme on hand and in what way he is going to seek the cooperation of the traders and utilise their expertise and skill.

Sir, some people made a remark that these private traders are monopolists and things like that. May I, with your permission, draw the attention of the House to the fact that in the year 1932 when the India Congress Committee was proposing to hold a Conference in Bombay, there was no place for them ? < The year 1932 was such a year when great cruelty was perpetrated on this great organisation, the AICC. And at that time it was the Cotton Association that came forward and offered their entire cooperation. . . . (Interruptions) All these things you easily forget. I mean to say, to dub them as monopolists or say things like that is not fair. You will have to go back to the year 1932 to see what part these traders played in the freedom fight of the country. This I say by the way.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : Will you kindly put the question ? We have to close the Discussion.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: With regard to the utilisation of the skill of the private traders in the import trade that is now being proposed to be taken over by the Corporation, what is the practical scheme he has got on hand ? Support price looks to be a smoke-screen because the Minister himself admits that the ruling prices of the cotton in the

country are several times more than the support price that is offered by the Government. When that is the case he has not made out a case for taking over the trade at all. He has not the means. After he has got the know-how for dealing with the internal trade is he sure that he is going to deal properly with external trade? I am anxious lest the Government, forgetting the interest of the country and the industry, should make a mess of the whole thing and lead the industry and the country into confusion.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : To keep the record straight, I would like to read out about the handling of import of cotton and domestic cotton trade. It is not a fact that we have no know-how and no expertise. We have a number of officers in the office of the Textile Commissioner. So far as the gigantic task is concerned, I should say we have not got the necessary number of experts for the purpose. The note says :—

"The Corporation will take over the entire import trade in cotton from a date which will be notified shortly. From that date, the practice of issuing import licences to user mills will be discontinued. Instead import licences will be issued to the Cotton Corporation, with an endorsement in favour of the user mills for which the imported stock is intended. The Corporation will have to consult the user mills in regard to their requirements and conclude contracts in consultation with them. In effecting purchases experience of those who have been engaged in this trade in the past, will be drawn upon. In order to be able to provide such services, the Corporation will enrol the private indenting houses as its Associates and will work out with them the terms and conditions on which their services will be utilised. Consultations with the trade interests would be usefully undertaken. The Corporation will gradually develop its technical competence so that its dependence on Associates is reduced over a period of time."

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS): Mr. Appan, just one minute.

SHRI G. A. APPAN (Tamil Nadu) : May I know from the hon'ble Minister, Sir, Vice-Chairman, the causa prima for the starting of the Corporation? May

know whether this starting of the Corporation had been the result of some complaints about the malpractices on the part of the merchants or somebody else? The Minister himself admits that it does not have the technical know-how and the personnel to manage.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, he also says that he has got a number of officers in the office of the Textile Commissioner. Does it mean, Mr. Vice-Chairman, that they have no work and that they are unemployed? If they have no work here their services can be utilised here.

Mr. Vice-Chairman, may I know from the hon'ble Minister the quantity of cotton that is imported and the value of it in the past? Mr. Vice-Chairman, they have been depending upon khadi and the coarse cloth which was woven up to 18" in 1930.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI IANKA BEHARY DAS) : That will do. The implicit understanding was one minute and that is why I permitted you.

SHRI G. A. APPAN : Mr. Vice-chairman, may I know whether he will appoint only people who have the technical know-how? That means he would not admit non-technical people like textile technologists and agriculturists. They are simply appointing officers, may I also know whether in this Committee he will take competent technologists and also Members of Parliament, whether he will see the accounts of this Committee every month and every fortnight and that the Minis Corporation will not lose a pie of the poor man?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI IANKA BEHARY DAS) : That is all. Can you have anything to say?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI JAGANNATH AO) : That is a part of our economic policy. The Corporation is coming into being. There was a mandate from our

Party and a recommendation from the Agricultural Prices Enquiry Committee. About the personnel I must say that there will be a Board of Directors. As the hon'ble Members has suggested, we are thinking of associating one or two Members of Parliament with this Corporation and there will be experts also.

श्री प्रेम मनोहर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मैं मंत्री महोदय से केवल एक ही बात पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो काटन की इम्पोर्टेड कास्ट होगी वह क्या होगी, जो इम्पोर्टेड कास्ट होगी, प्लस कस्टम ड्युटी, प्लस आपका जो ओवरहेड एक्सपेंस होगा, वह क्या होगा? मैं आपसे कोई हवाई बात नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं जानता हूँ कि सलफर इम्पोर्ट जब प्राइवेट ट्रेडर्स के हाथ में था, तो प्राइवेट ट्रेडर 10 रुपये प्रति टन चार्ज करता था। आपने किसी का नाम लिया, लेकिन मुझे मालूम है और आर्थिक तरीके से मैं कह सकता हूँ कि एम० एम० टी० सी० पहले लास में चल रही थी, सलफर 10 रुपये पर इम्पोर्ट हुआ करता था और हर एक कंजुमर को 10 रुपये टन के फायदे से प्राइवेट इम्पोर्टर दे दिया करते थे, लेकिन अब एम० एम० टी० सी० 100 रुपये प्रति टन प्राफिट चार्ज कर रही है। तो मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि आपने बड़े-बड़े दावे किये हैं तो एक दावा यह करिये कि हमारा ओवरहेड एक्सपेंस, हमारी इनएफिशिएंसी 2 परसेंट या 3 परसेंट से ज्यादा नहीं होगी और जिस दिन होगी उस दिन हम इम्पोर्ट करना बन्द कर देंगे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि अभी तक जो प्राइवेट इम्पोर्टर्स थे, वह छोटे और बड़े कंजुमर को एक ही दाम पर अपनी चीज दिया करते थे। लेकिन जो-जो भी ट्रेड गवर्नमेंट ने लिया है, जो उसके बारे में मेरा बिल्कुल अनुभव है, मैं कैटेगोरिकली बिल्कुल गिना सकता हूँ कि जितने ट्रेडर्स भी गवर्नमेंट ने लिये हैं, उन सब में वह चीज है कि बड़े-बड़े कंजुमर्स को सस्ते दाम पर मिलता है और छोटे-छोटे कंजुमर्स को ज्यादा दामों पर मिलता है। तो मंत्री महोदय चाहे

हवा में बातें जो करें, मगर मैं फैक्ट्स के आधार पर यह कह रहा हूँ और इस वजह से देश में अर्थव्यवस्था बिगड़ी है। तो क्या आप बतायेंगे, कैटेगोरिकली कहेंगे कि ओवरहेड एक्सपेंस 2 परसेंट या 3 परसेंट या 4 परसेंट या 20 परसेंट कितना होगा और आप कितना लेंगे और क्या हर एक कंप्यूमर को एक ही प्राइस पर मिलेगा ?

श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र : हवा में हम कल नहीं करते, सरकार की तरह जवाब देही से बात करते हैं, जो कहते हैं वह करना है। ओवरहेड एक्सपेंसेज की बात की, मैं यहां कुछ कह नहीं सकता। इसका एक कार्पोरेशन होगा और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य ने कहा उन्हें खयाल रखना चाहिये कि जहां तक हो सके ओवरहेड के खर्च को कम करें, जिससे कि जनता की सेवा ठीक तरह से कर सकें।

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR (Uttar Pradesh) : Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has made an amusing declaration and extended a fant; - is urance that this trade will be in privai.; hands for the coming 10

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I never said that.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : ... or for even iwo years more. And he has simultaneously said that it is in pursuance of the iolicy decision taken by his Party, to which I have the honour to belong. Tht Party has decided that it will imtnedii tely take over under State trading the trading of important agriculture] pro-luce like cotton and jute, Thar is the leclaration that was made. But whatevi r may be the, declaration of cur Part', may I know whether it is the policy of the Government to give such assurances for the coming decade and whether any Government can reasonably extend such assurances iri the present situation of our country? It is somethiiiig very amusing and fantastic. That is number one. Secondly, the hon. Member on that side asked "whelre haV' you got the expertise ?"

And the Minister also agreed that he had no expertise, while the private business houses had got the expertise. Mr. Mohta and Mr. Chinai speak for one India and Mr. Lalit Narayan Mishra speaks for another India. There are two Indias being represented in this country, one represented by the big monopolists, capitalists and the private trade and the other being represented by the Government of India. I am really shocked and surprised to hear such fantastic ideas in this hon. House, to see that responsible people should indulge in such things. If there is expertise in private trade, it is the expertise of the country. And when the trade is taken over by the Government they will be called upon to serve in cooperation with the Government. They will not be slaves of anybody. But these people are the slaves of their ideas and they want to keep the country bifurcated. Thirdly, from where do the cotton traders get their finance ? Do they bring it from their own coffers ? It is the banking institutions which finance them.

They have adopted this peculiar bullying tactics as if they have produced the money from Alladin-ka-chirag. They are always pressurising the Government asking, "From where are you bringing the finances ?" How much accommodation has been extended to these cotton traders during the last year? The honourable Minister should give figures and we shall be able to call the bluff of these private traders. The Minister should not feel shy to say that this step has been taken because of the malpractices, the manipulations, the theory of exploitation, of foreign trade in the field of cotton.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Sir, I would not like to enter into an argument about the resolution and mandate of the party. Mr. Chandra Shekhar is a member of the Working Committee and he is a better authority on it. The resolution of the party was before me when I was making this note for the Cabinet.

I have not said "ten years". I have only said that it is not for me to say when we will be able to take over. It is not for me to say whether it is in ten years or six years. I am not in a posi-



[Shri L. N. Mishra]

tion to say anything today. But I said eventually domestic trade has to be taken over by this Corporation as and when we develop the necessary machinery for it. If we can do it in two years, well and good. ] do not know whether I will be here or somebody else will be here I have not said "one decade or two decades". I only have said that it is not possible for me to say whether the Government will be able to take over the domestic trade in two years' time or one year's time or ten years' time. If we have the necessary machinery for it, it may be that we will be able to take over in two years or even one year. But I cannot say

anything now. It is for the Corporation to decide depending upon the situation. But in principle we have decided to take over the import, in principle we have decided to take over the domestic trade also. The question as to when we will be able to do it is for the Corporation to decide, not for the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS) : The House stands adjourned till 11 A.M. tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at fifty-seven minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 4th August, 1970.